

DATE: MARCH 4, 2026

FROM: ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT

SUBJECT: RESOLUTION NO. _____ - APPROVAL OF A TECHNOLOGY ADVANCEMENT PROGRAM AGREEMENT WITH THE PORT OF LONG BEACH AND ROCKETRUCK, INC. TO FUND THE DEMONSTRATION OF DIRECT CURRENT-TO-DIRECT CURRENT TRUCK CHARGERS

SUMMARY:

Staff requests approval of a proposed three-party Technology Advancement Program (TAP) Agreement among the City of Los Angeles Harbor Department (Harbor Department), the Port of Long Beach (POLB), and RockeTruck, Inc. (RockeTruck) to demonstrate innovative charging for zero-emission trucks. The RockeTruck Electric Vehicle Direct Current Hub (EVDCH) will seek to demonstrate that direct current (DC) power distribution architecture can charge zero-emission battery electric trucks more efficiently than alternating current (AC) distribution architecture (Project). The total cost of the proposed Project is \$5,078,021. TAP funding in the amount of \$600,000 has been requested from the ports, 50% from each port. The Harbor Department is financially responsible for \$300,000 under the proposed agreement.

RECOMMENDATION:

It is recommended that the Board of Harbor Commissioners (Board):

1. Find that the Director of Environmental Management has determined that the proposed action is administratively exempt from the requirements of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) under Article II, Section 2(f) of the Los Angeles City CEQA Guidelines;
2. Approve the Technology Advancement Program Agreement with the Port of Long Beach and RockeTruck for a term of three years and a total not-to-exceed amount of \$600,000;
3. Authorize the Executive Director to execute and Board Secretary to attest to said agreement for and on behalf of the Board of Harbor Commissioners; and
4. Adopt Resolution No. _____.

DATE: MARCH 4, 2026

PAGE 2 OF 5

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DISCUSSION:

Background/Context – The San Pedro Bay Ports Clean Air Action Plan (CAAP) was adopted on November 20, 2006 during a joint meeting between the Los Angeles and Long Beach Boards of Harbor Commissioners. The CAAP was subsequently updated in 2010 and 2017. A significant initiative of the CAAP is the TAP, which provides grants to help accelerate the availability of new strategies into the port market that will ultimately result in significant reductions of Diesel Particulate Matter, Oxides of Nitrogen, Oxides of Sulfur, and other pollutants.

The TAP is a joint ports initiative that provides grant funding on a cost share basis. The TAP Advisory Committee, comprised of the United States Environmental Protection Agency, California Air Resources Board, the California Energy Commission (CEC), and the South Coast Air Quality Management District, along with the Harbor Department and POLB, meets regularly to review and recommend projects for funding, such as the RockeTruck project.

Project Description – RockeTruck and project partner Zeem Solutions will validate the technical feasibility of Solid-State Transformer (SST) technology to distribute power from DC-to-DC to higher voltage capable electric vehicle (EV) fast chargers. The demonstration will operate for three years and be located at Zeem Solutions existing truck charging facility on POLB property. Zeem determined that this location would best accommodate the project due to available space and truck access. This Project will demonstrate the charge of a typical EV drayage truck with 150 to 500 kilowatt-hours of battery storage capacity from near-zero to a near full charge in two hours or less. To showcase this capability, electrical grid upgrades will be installed to feed into medium voltage EV charger outpost infrastructure at the Zeem Solutions facility.

Fast charging drayage trucks present unique challenges for heavy duty cycle operations necessary in a port setting. SST technology provides a means to supply medium voltage power distribution to innovative EV fast chargers. Demonstrating the DC-to-DC transformer technology will attempt to validate that DC power distribution architecture can charge electric vehicles more efficiently and cost-effectively during RockeTruck's daily terminal operation duty cycle. RockeTruck has assembled a team of partners to implement the Project including Zeem Solutions, an Original Equipment Manufacturer (OEM) of innovative EV charging solutions that will provide access to its charging facility in Long Beach and associated support to enable the installation of RockeTruck's EVDCH architecture; ARRS Technologies LLC, a software developer to review medium voltage system designs and support for development of the control software; Southern California Edison will participate on the RockeTruck's Technical Advisory Committee to assist with lab testing and field demonstration; California State University Los Angeles will support educational and community outreach initiatives; and Coalition for Clean Air will lead community meetings and outreach activities.

DATE: MARCH 4, 2026

PAGE 3 OF 5

SUBJECT: AGREEMENT WITH THE PORT OF LONG BEACH AND ROCKETRUCK, INC.

The entire cost of the EVDCH Truck Charger Project is anticipated to be \$5,078,021. The total amount of funding to be provided through the TAP is \$600,000, split equally by the Harbor Department and POLB, for a total contribution of \$300,000 each. Rocketruck has secured a grant award from the CEC for \$4,000,000 to fund the majority of this project. Rocketruck, Zeem Solutions, and Southern California Edison also provide funds.

Three-Party Agreement with POLB and Rocketruck – Rocketruck submitted the EVDCH Truck Charger Project to the TAP to request cost share participation from the Harbor Department and POLB. The proposed three-party agreement (Transmittal 1) describes the specific task items the Harbor Department and POLB will fund on the EVDCH Truck Charger Project. Each port will allocate \$300,000 from the Clean Truck Fund Rate instead of the TAP fund since the Project will demonstrate innovative charging for drayage trucks.

TAP funding will be matched as follows:

- \$158,021 from Rocketruck
- \$4,000,000 from CEC
- \$200,000 from Zeem Solutions
- \$120,000 from Southern California Edison

ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT:

The proposed action is the approval of the TAP Agreement for the Project, which is an administrative activity. Therefore, the Director of Environmental Management has determined that the proposed action is administratively exempt from the requirements of CEQA in accordance with Article II Section 2(f) of the Los Angeles City CEQA Guidelines.

FINANCIAL IMPACT:

The proposed action approves a TAP Agreement to fund the Rocketruck Project in the amount of \$600,000. Each port will contribute \$300,000 towards this Project. It is anticipated that funds will be expended as follows:

Fiscal Year	Amount
2025/26	\$150,000
2026/27	\$100,000
<u>2027/28</u>	<u>\$ 50,000</u>
TOTAL	\$300,000

Funds for Fiscal Year 2025/26 in the amount of \$150,000 are available within Fund 75W (Clean Truck Fund Rate), Account 562015 (Clean Truck Program Subsidies), Division 42010 (Environmental Management). Funding needed in future fiscal years will be requested through the annual Harbor Department budget adoption process.

DATE: MARCH 4, 2026

PAGE 4 OF 5

SUBJECT: AGREEMENT WITH THE PORT OF LONG BEACH AND ROCKETRUCK, INC.

The Harbor Department's financial obligations for future fiscal years are contingent upon Board appropriation of funds. If any subsequent fiscal year funds are not appropriated by the Board for the work required by the agreement, the agreement shall be terminated. However, such termination shall not relieve the parties of liability for any obligations previously incurred.

CITY ATTORNEY:

The Office of the City Attorney has reviewed and approved as to form and legality the proposed Agreement.

DATE: MARCH 4, 2026

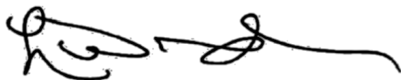
PAGE 5 OF 5

SUBJECT: AGREEMENT WITH THE PORT OF LONG BEACH AND ROCKETRUCK, INC.

TRANSMITTALS:

1. Agreement between the City of Los Angeles Harbor Department, the Port of Long Beach, and RocketTruck Inc.

FIS Approval: JS
CA Approval: JC



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APPROVED:

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